

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 740 – HB 1273

March 10, 2015

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Authorizes the formation of public charter schools that are designed specifically for the academic needs of a specific set of students. Such schools may limit their enrollment to a specific subset of students. Prohibits the reduction of a public charter school's application score by an authorizing body solely on the basis that the public charter school is designed for a specific subset of students with specific academic needs. Such public charter schools shall not be subject to the provisions of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-113 (b)-(d) relative to enrollment of public charter school students.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Other Fiscal Impact – To the extent that new public charter schools are authorized as a result of this bill, additional state and local Basic Education Program (BEP) funding will shift from a local education agency (LEA) to the public charter school. Any such shift is not able to be reasonably quantified and is based on multiple unknown factors.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004157): Deletes all language after the enacting clause of the original bill. Authorizes the formation of public charter schools that are designed specifically for the students with disabilities, for students with specific academic needs, or for a single sex. Such schools may limit their enrollment to a specific subset of students. Prohibits the reduction of a public charter school's application score by an authorizing body solely on the basis that a public charter school is designed for a specific subset of students. Such public charter schools shall not be subject to the provisions of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-113(b)-(d) relative to enrollment of public charter school students.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Public charter schools that are designed to meet the academic needs of a specific group of students will follow the same application process as other public charter schools and will be reviewed during the annual application process.
- Any shift in state and local BEP funding will be dependent upon multiple unknown factors, including but limited to, whether a public charter school's application is

SB 740 – HB 1273

approved by an authorizing entity; the number of students that seek enrollment in the public charter school; the enrollment capacity of the public charter school; and the fiscal capacity of the LEA in which the public charter school opens.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

/msg